Changing of overhead wiring to underground by MTNL

1345. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether MTNL, Delhi has decided to change the overhead wiring to underground to improve qualtiy of its services;

(b) if so, whether the job has been entrusted to private contractors alongwith the details of the areas proposed to be covered and time frame fixed therefor;

(c) whether MTNL is aware that private contractors are unnecessarily delaying the completion of job; and

(d) if so, whether contractors responsible for causing delay have been identified and the action taken/proposed to be taken against them to ensure timely completion of the job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. MTNL has decided to make the network poleless by converting the pole DPs into wall DPs.

(b) Yes, Sir. The job is got done through private contractors/PSUs in Delhi and Mumbai through tendering process in a phased manner.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Action has been initiated against those erring contractors for not completing the work within the scheduled time.

Mobile phone services in Chhattisgarh

†1346. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for mobile phone connections in the waiting list in each district of Chhattisgarh as on the 28th February, 2006;

(b) the number of connections provided in each district during each of the last three years up to the 28th February, 2006;

(c) the number of Tehsil Head Quarters of the State connected with mobile services and the names of the Tehsils which are planned to be connected by the 31st March, 2006; and

(d) the details of action being taken to provide new mobile connections in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, waiting list of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) mobile connections

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.